



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Services



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

December 28, 2005

**TO: MATERNAL, CHILD AND ADOLESCENT HEALTH (MCAH) DIRECTORS
BLACK INFANT HEALTH (BIH) COORDINATORS**

**SUBJECT: BIH PROGRAM DATA CONTRACTOR
PROGRAM POLICY ALERT # 2005/06-06**

The Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health/Office of Family Planning (MCAH/OFP) Branch is pleased to announce that the Branagh Information Group (BIG) has been chosen as the contractor to maintain data collection responsibilities for the BIH Management and Information System (MIS), effective December 1, 2005. They will provide services related to technical support, uploading of data from sites, training, MIS maintenance activities, and limited data analysis support.

BIG brings a capable team of analysts and database programmers experienced in large data collection efforts and program support. BIG created and programmed the MIS systems for the Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP), the Cal-Learn Program, and the Adolescent Sibling Pregnancy Prevention Program (ASPPP) and has maintained the system software and provided user support for more than ten years.

Over the next two months, BIG staff will be contacting all BIH sites to provide you with information about how to contact BIG, MIS maintenance activities, technical assistance, training, and data processes.

The contact person at BIG is John Newstead, who serves as the lead programmer/analyst for BIH (and AFLP). His contact information is below.

John Newstead
Phone: (707) 895-2510
Email: john@bihdata.com

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Questions regarding BIH should be directed to Janet Baisden, Coordinator for BIH, at (916) 650-0385 or jbaisden@dhs.ca.gov.

Thank you for your continued efforts in improving the health of African American women and children.

Sincerely,



Anita Mitchell, M.D., Chief
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